



Telford & Wrekin  
COUNCIL

Appendix 3

Angie Astley Assistant Director of Neighbourhood & Customer Services  
Environment and Neighbourhood Services  
Neighbourhood and Customer Services  
Addenbrooke House  
Ironmasters Way  
Telford  
TF3 4NT

Your Ref: TPO 167

Telephone: 01952 384384  
Our Ref: TPO 167

Date: 2nd of March 2018

Dear Mr Tomlinson,

In response to your letter of objection regarding the TPO placed upon the Monkey Puzzle tree and the three Scots Pine trees, within the grounds of your property 23 Wellington Road.

As you have no objection to the preservation of the Scots Pine trees, my response will focus solely on the Monkey Puzzle Tree.

The Monkey Puzzle has grown taller than the adjacent dwelling 21 Wellington Road. Consequently, the tree is evident from a number of perspectives, within the surrounding area and not just as stated the curtilage your property.

The tree is an evergreen and presents year round colour within the street scene. It can be seen from the junction of School Road and Wellington Road and is evident whilst travelling eastward along Wellington Road toward Honnington & Lilleshall.

It is also able to be seen from the Shell garage and the adjacent McDonald's restaurant and car park. There are also views of the tree from the properties in Kingsley Drive and Chiswick Court. Therefore, the tree does have a public amenity value

A tree preservation order has never been made upon the tree, as it has never been under threat of removal. In this case, it was expedient to preserve the tree within the landscape to ensure that it contributes to the street scene and the proposed development, if it were granted consent.

With regard to the life span of the tree, I am afraid that I do not agree that it is in the final third of its life. Monkey Puzzle trees originate from Chile, where numerous trees can be found that are a thousand years of age, or older. The oldest 'Auracaria Madre' is growing in Conguillio National Park and is estimated to be around 1800 years old.

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Monkey Puzzle trees were first introduced into Britain by Archibald Menzies around 1792, the oldest of these are planted in Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, Salterton and Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire. These were planted around 1844 and 1832 respectively.

Therefore, I believe the Monkey Puzzle tree in question is worthy of preservation within the landscape as it stands to contribute to the street scene in which it is growing for many years to come.

Yours sincerely (or faithfully as appropriate)

Gavin Onions  
Tree and Woodland Officer